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FTA news

FOOD TOBACCO AGRICULTURAL AND ALLIED WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA—CIO

Vol. V, No. 10 June 1, 1945 68 Price 5 Cents

Food and Tobacco Employers Okay Unity Charter

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JUN 22 1945
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Philadelphia, Pa.—Taking the lead in establishing a program to guarantee for the workers in FTA industries a postwar future of full employment and higher standards of living, FTA Pres. Donald Henderson sent letters to all the companies under contract to FTA outlining the Union's position on the Labor-Management Charter and inviting their comments on how the Charter can be applied to FTA industries.

The Charter, recently drafted by Chamber of Commerce Pres. Eric Johnston, CIO Pres. Philip Murray and AFL Pres. Wm. Green, sets its sights on a postwar period of labor-management unity "based upon a vastly expanding economy and unlimited opportunities for every American."

In reply to Pres. Henderson's letter, FTA received the following comments from several industry representatives.

ALASKA SALMON INDUSTRY

"The termination of the war faces both labor and management with tremendous responsibilities in the adjustment of postwar problems affecting the Alaska Salmon Industry and the unions," wrote Walter Fuhrer of the Alaska Salmon Industry, Inc., which is under contract to Local 7 in Seattle, Wash.

"It would appear to us," he continued, "that there is a wonderful opportunity for the unions with which we deal to formulate a plan, to the end that we could sit down with representatives of the unions to discuss problems with which we are all to be faced as a result of the termination of the war."

QUAKER OATS CO.

Robert Forslev, Industrial Relations Dir. for the Quaker Oats Company, said, "We too are interested in this statement of ... able and necessary to secure a high degree of labor-management cooperation in the postwar." Forslev said that the Company would be "agreeable to discussing" with FTA "the possibilities of specific application of the Charter to the milling industry or to the Quaker Oats Company." The Quaker Oats Company is under contract to Local 110 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Local 19 in Memphis, Tenn.; Local 115 in Depew, N. Y.; Local 120 in Akron, Ohio; and Local 125 in St. Joseph, Mo.

BUCKEYE COTTON OIL CO.

W. F. Bowld, Manager of the Buckeye Cotton Oil Co., under contract to Local 19 in Memphis, Tenn., wrote, "Naturally, we agree wholeheartedly with the general principles as set forth in the Charter and will be very much interested to see how they develop in practice over the next few years."

AUGUSTUS POLLACK CIGAR

"We thoroughly approve the principles enunciated in the Charter and hope to apply them to our industry in every way possible," we were informed by the Augustus Pollack Cigar Co. under contract to Local 200 in Wheeling, W. Va. "In our organization we have frequent meetings with the Union Executive Committee for the discussion of all matters of mutual interest in the operation of the plant. We find that those discussions are very helpful to all of us."

SOUTHERN PECAN SHELLING

"I am in accord with the proposals of the Charter 100 per cent," wrote J. Seligman, head of the Southern Pecan Shelling Co., under contract to Local 172 in San Antonio, Texas. "We have been most gratified with our contract with your Union, and we stand ready at all times to do whatever is necessary to make it possible for labor to receive fair wages, a high standard of living and prosperity such as the United States has never before witnessed."

AMERICAN PRESERVE CO.

W. Kyrel Meschter, Pres. of the

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 1)

BUY NOW FOR THE BIGGER 7TH WAR LOAN

Through Payroll Savings

A Message to You from the CIO:

Washington, D. C.—On V-E Day, CIO Pres. Murray issued the following statement calling on organized labor to keep on buying War Bonds, so that we can finish the job in the Pacific:

PHILIP MURRAY

"Victory in Europe has been won," he said. "V-E Day has come at last. The war into which Hitler plunged the world in order to take freedom away from everybody but Nazi Germans is over. There will still be much fighting against desperate guerrilla bands, and many of our fighting men in Europe must still lose their lives, but the world is at last saved from the Nazi menace.

"Japan is not yet conquered and there is still a tremendous mop-up job to be done in Europe. The courage, patience and superb fighting qualities of our sons and brothers in the fighting forces must still be backed up on the home front. This is no time for us to quit buying War Bonds. For many months yet ahead of us, we must help to meet the payrolls and to pay the food and supply bills of those great fighters of whom we are so justly proud.

"I therefore urge all loyal CIO members to maintain and increase their War Bond purchases. It is important that as the boys begin streaming back from Europe—as they will shortly—and later coming back from the Pacific, they find a maximum number of War Bonds piled up to await their return and to help the difficult change-over to a peacetime basis. Therefore, hold on to the War Bonds you have already bought, increase your payroll allotment and buy as many more as you can."

Paper Shortage

Due to the wartime shortage of paper, the War Production Board has limited all newspapers in their use of newsprint. Therefore, the June 15 issue of FTA news will not be published. The next issue of the News will appear around July 1.

California's Citrus Workers Organizing Committee is in full swing; some CWOC Shop Stewards are shown at one of their regular meetings in Redlands: (l. to r.) Duke Cunningham, CWOC Chairman; Dave Forbes, CWOC Representative; Marcia and Dorothy Love, Redlands Orange Growers Assoc.; Anna Hawkins, Gold Banner Assoc.; Helen Hunt, Redlands Mutual Orange Assoc.; Helen Vetsch, Western Fruit Growers; Florence De Freze, Redlands Foothills Assoc.; Hazel Davidson, Gold Banner Assoc.; Dora Love, Redlands Orange Growers Assoc.; and Isidro Armenta, CWOC Rep. As a thank-you present to the Union, FTA citrus workers recently sent a crate of freshly-packed oranges to the International officers.

Truman Chooses New Labor Secy.

Washington, D.C.—In a re-shuffling of his Cabinet on May 23, President Truman accepted the resignations of three Cabinet members and announced his new appointments for Secretary of Labor, Secretary of Agriculture and Attorney General.

Federal Judge Lewis B. Schwellenbach was appointed Secy. of Labor (replacing Frances Perkins); Rep. Clinton P. Anderson (D., N.M.) was appointed Secy. of Agriculture (replacing Claude R. Wickard); and Tom C. Clark of Dallas, Texas, present Assistant Attorney General, will replace Francis Biddle.

A second far-reaching action of the President was the appointment of Harry Hopkins, White House adviser, and Joseph P. Davies, for special diplomatic missions to London and Moscow.

AGENCIES TO SHIFT

Miss Perkins' departure is expected to signal return to the Labor Department of all the many scattered labor agencies, including the War Labor Board and the National Labor Relations Board.

SCHWELLENBACH'S RECORD

Schwellenbach once was an attorney for labor unions. He entered the Senate in 1935 to join the "young Turks" younger Senators who were elected in the 1932 and 1934 landslides—in their battle for Mr. Roosevelt's reforms. He supported the Supreme Court reorganization plan in 1937 and fought vigorously for the National Labor Relations Act, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the reciprocal trade program and the Administration's farm program.

Tell It To Congress

WITH victory over Nazi Germany achieved, the nation's attention turns to the war against Japan and at the same time setting into motion partial reconversion to civilian production.

V-E Day was the day the defeatists were waiting for to open up the battle against all government controls giving way to the wild speculation that preceded the depression of the '30's. No sooner was victory announced than they opened up full blast.

The following action on legislation must be taken to defeat the defeatists:

Poll Tax Repeal (HR 7)

Due for debate on the House floor early in June. Eliminates the undemocratic Poll Tax in federal elections in 7 Southern states.

ACTION: Letters to House members should urge quick passage.

NLRB Appropriations (HR 3199)

Passed by the House with a $400,000 cut (see story p. 7). Bill now before the Sub-committee of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

ACTION: Write immediately to your Senators and to Senator McGarran, Chairman of the Labor and Federal Security Subcommittee, to restore the cut in funds. Be ready for quick action to scotch attempts to stick agricultural processing and foremen riders into the Senate version of the bill.

FEPC (S 101 and HR 2232)

Bill renewing price control act for 18 months without changes in OPA controls faces serious fight on Senate floor. (See story on this page.)

ACTION: Wire Senators demanding passage without amendments.

FEPC (S 101 and HR 2232)

Sets up permanent FEPC with enforcement powers. Snarled in House Rules Committee. Discharge Petition No. 4 needs 218 signatures, has only 100 so far.

ACTION: Urge your Congressman to sign Discharge Petition and to vote for full $599,000 appropriation.

Reciprocal Trade (HR 3240)

Increased foreign trade means jobs. This bill extends U. S. power to engage in increased trade by cutting tariffs. Republicans are united to block this bill, which is up for debate now. House vote due about the time the News comes out.

ACTION: Act immediately to let your Congressman know that American workers understand that jobs depend on this bill, and on the Bretton Woods bill (HR 2211), and that he must vote for both.

"Equal Rights"

This proposed amendment is a phoney and would nullify protective legislation for women workers.

ACTION: Set your Congressman straight on how labor feels about this bill. Letters should go to all Congressmen and Senators, and plenty, to counteract the influence of groups lobbying for the bill.

IN WAR—WHY NOT IN PEACE?

FROM WASHINGTON

Home Front Policy

By ELIZABETH SASULY, Legislative Director

THREE important statements have been made recently on government policies for the period in which we will be concentrating on final victory over Japan. All-out war production is still the prime requirement to achieve quick victory and bring more of our men home safely. However, a certain amount of reconversion to civilian production will take place and it is necessary to plan for it.

The War Labor Board issued a statement on May 10 on wage rates in plants where civilian production is either partially or completely resumed. This provides generally that present rates be maintained.

Where civilian jobs are substantially the same as war jobs, civilian job rates are to be the same as war job rates. Where job content is changed as a result of reconversion, rates are to be based on present prevailing rates in the industry or area for comparable jobs.

Take-Home Pay

This is a good first step by the WLB in tackling the problem of maintaining present earnings, but it covers only a small part of the problem. This is recognized by the Board, and its statement goes on to say that the basic question of maintaining take-home pay when the length of the workweek is cut is now under consideration and will be determined in the near future.

The majority of FTA industries will not have a problem of converting to civilian production, but the wage policies established for the basic industries will govern the wage policies in all industries and will determine whether the purchasing power of all workers will be maintained.

The next step which must be taken is one which will guarantee take-home pay for a shorter week equal to present earnings. In this connection CIO President Murray has called for abolition of the wage bracket set-up, establishment of a 65c substandard minimum, and prohibition of reduction in wage rates, while stating that general wage controls must be maintained at least until V-J Day.

Director of War Mobilization Vinson has outlined a broad program of government policy until the termination of the war with Japan. This program very properly calls for first emphasis on war production, with a shift to civilian production where possible. It also emphasizes the need for continued wage and price controls to guarantee against inflation.

Unemployment Benefits

One most important addition to Vinson's program is an immediate necessity—provision for emergency compensation for workers in the period of transition. The CIO has already made proposals to the Office of War Mobilization, calling for unemployment benefits of 60% of present earnings or a maximum of $25 for 26 weeks in one year or 52 weeks within 2 years, as well as free transportation to new jobs. These proposals provide for coverage of agricultural workers and others now excluded from unemployment benefits.

Price Control

Price Administrator Bowles has outlined a program for pricing of civilian products which have not been in production during the war period, with the objective of achieving return to 1942 prices for items such as automobiles, washing machines, refrigerators, and other consumer goods. Some leeway is allowed for adjustment of these prices to allow for increased costs. This program must be administered so that increases over '43 prices are kept at a minimum. *(From FTA Washington Newsletter.)*

"Defeat Inflation Week," June 10-17

ONCE again an attempt is being made to wreck price control. As was expected, the Senate Agriculture Committee has proposed that meat packers be guaranteed a profit on every single item, a profit-making racket the packers have never been able to achieve before.

In addition, using V-E Day as an excuse, Senator Taft wants to junk price control completely. He is sugar-coating the pill by proposing that wage controls also be terminated by the 1st of next year.

As everyone knows, we still have a long and tough fight ahead to bring Japan to unconditional surrender. No worker is dumb enough to fall for the argument that he would benefit by removal of all controls, for with consumer goods still scarce, this would mean high prices and fewer articles to go around.

What To Do

The danger of wrecking price control is so great that the CIO, together with consumer and other organizations, is sponsoring a nationwide mobilization to save it. June 10-17 has been designated as "Defeat Inflation Week".

All FTA locals should swing into the "Defeat Inflation Week" campaign by—

- Joining with other organizations in holding community meetings, broadcasts, etc.
- Working with industrial union councils and other organizations in sending delegations to Washington to see their Congressmen.
- Starting a letter-writing campaign asking Congressmen to support tighter price and rent control, to vote for renewal of the Price Control Act without amendments and to vote for the full appropriation asked by OPA.

FLASH
FTA Wins Two NLRB Elections

FTA won bargaining rights for the workers at Cameron Feed Mill in North Little Rock, Ark., by a vote of nearly 2 to 1 in an NLRB election on April 28, according to Sub-Regional Director Harry Koger. Of the 40 eligible voters, 24 voted for FTA and 13 against.

An NLRB election was also won by Local 19 at the A. S. Barboro Co. in Memphis, Tenn., by a vote of 24 to 3.

Employers Okay Unity Charter

(Continued from Page 1)

American Preserve Co., under contract to Local 186 in Philadelphia, wrote, "I believe that the experience of the Labor-Management Committee at our plant, earning for the entire organization the War Food Administration 'A' Award, has been a practical application of the principles set forth in the Charter. I believe a general discussion of the Charter would be quite helpful."

COLLEGE INN FOOD PROD.

Dwight H. Mahan, Executive Vice-Pres. of the College Inn Food Products Co., under contract to Local 13 in Chicago, wrote, "We have been through the war period and have produced considerable quantities of food for the Armed Forces, without any work stoppages in the plant. Progress is being made and I think it will continue in the postwar world."

Keen interest in the Charter was also expressed in earlier letters from P. H. Gorman, Dir. of the American Tobacco Co., and from W. M. Meek, Asst., Dir. of Industrial Relations at Quaker Oats.

FTA news

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DONALD HENDERSON
General President

HAROLD J. LANE
General Secretary-Treasurer

Vice-Presidents
Lewis Rentzley
John Mac Dyson
Luisa Moreno
Otis Nation (on leave)
Armando Ramirez
Robbie Mae Riddick
Dixie Tiller
Armando Valdes
Owen H. Whitfield

Editor: Bertie Selden

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Vol. V, No. 10 June 1, 1945

Murray Calls For 20 Percent Increases In Workers' Wages

Washington, D.C. — American workers must receive a 20 percent wage increase if we are to avoid great unemployment in the near future, CIO President Philip Murray told President Truman on May 22.

Murray visited the White House and spent a quarter of an hour with the President to express the support of the CIO and to talk about the need for an immediate upward adjustment in wages. He left with Truman the recent statement on wage policy which he had previously submitted to War Mobilizer Fred Vinson.

In a formal statement to War Mobilizer Fred M. Vinson and his advisory board, Murray said that "cutbacks are underway, workers have been laid off, and reconversion has begun. A formulation of wage policy to meet this condition is not a problem of the future, but an immediate necessity so that workers may be able to buy enough and so that employers will be able to estimate both labor costs and consumer demand."

Murray said the policy should be directed to "maintaining full production and full employment." He said expansion, not contraction of purchasing power must be the objective and that take-home pay must be maintained as high as at present to keep up the national income.

These policies, he said, "would not require any general upward price adjustments nor, with proper price controls, initiate any inflationary spiral." He showed that 1944 price levels yielded 25 billion dollars in profits before taxes.

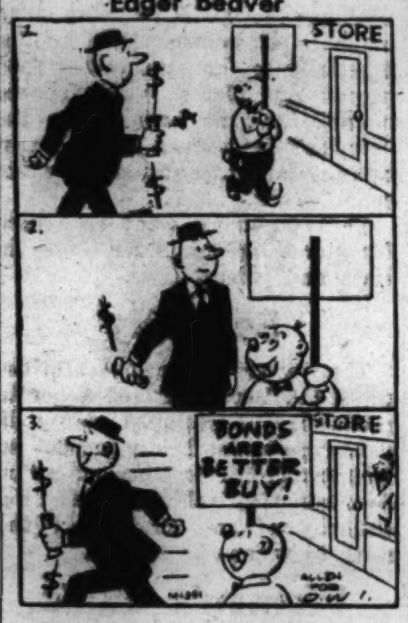
COST OF LIVING

"Labor's earlier argument that wage rates must be increased to keep pace with the cost of living still holds good, and would necessitate an upward adjustment of at least 10%. But such an adjustment would make no allowance for the increase in labor productivity, which in over 4 years may be estimated conservatively as 10% or more. Thus a 20% increase in basic wage rates is necessary simply to restore pre-war relationships between wage rates, prices and productivity per man-hour."

Murray specifically recommended the abolishment of the wage bracket system; raising the substandard ceiling from 55c to 65c an hour; and granting appropriate adjustments to white collar, government and professional workers. He also asked that wage cuts be prohibited.

In conclusion Murray said the WLB "must be given greater authority in the establishment of specific wage policies and in the making of specific decisions."

Eager Beaver



Union Wins At Buckeye

Memphis, Tenn. — Union security, the only issue in dispute in the contract with the Buckeye Cotton Oil Co., was settled when the Fourth Regional WLB ordered maintenance of membership and dues checkoff for the 1100 employes represented by Local 19.

Another dispute case between Local 19 and the National Produce Company will be heard by a WLB panel. Major points in dispute include union security, vacations, seniority and wages.

Local 19 cooperates with the Memphis Industrial Union Council in sending telegrams to Senators McKellar and Steward and Congressman Cliff Davis urging them to oppose the measures under consideration to weaken the NLRB by reducing its funds and keeping it from taking action in agricultural cases.

Letters from the Council to Congress also urged continued price control "until supply meets demand."

Raises Ordered For Local 15

By Rebecca Stanfield, Reporter

Charleston, S. C.—The demands of the workers at the American Tobacco Co. for a 5c per hour general wage increase; six months' reopening clause in the contract; compulsory check-off, etc.; we're ordered by the Fourth Regional WLB.

In addition, the Board ordered that a time study man from the U. S. Conciliation Service check the number of relief operators needed; and that the work load in the box shop be reduced. On the basis of the lower work load, it recommended that wages be increased 7c per hundred boxes over the new set scale.

While the Company appealed wages, the reopening clause and compulsory check-off, Local 15 is confident that the Company's appeal will be denied by the Board. In the meantime, Local 15 petitioned the Board to put the other recommendations not appealed by the Company immediately into effect.

CAN BE ARBITRATED

The Board denied the Union's request to specify the number of machines to be handled by each mechanic. However, in the event that disputes arise over the number of machines per mechanic, the Board included the provision that the matter can be taken to arbitration, thus leaving this point open for further improvement.

Seven cases in which the Company fired Union members were placed before arbitration upon the consent of the Company. Previously they had been pending before the NLRB.

Six additional cases of discharged employees remain to be rearbitrated due to the death of the Arbitrator. While two of the people involved were rehired, there is the question of payment for time lost which is still to be settled.

Local Helps Vets, OPA

Charleston, S. C. — Local 15's deep concern with Veterans' problems led the membership to name Reuel Stanfield, Pres. and Bus. Agt. of the Local, to represent them in the Veterans' Rehabilitation Committee, according to Reporter Rebecca Stanfield.

The Local and the Charleston NMU are seeking to secure representation on the Charleston Chamber of Commerce in order to speak for the CIO in shaping plans for the postwar period. The AFL is already represented and the Charleston CIO locals hope to join it shortly.

RENT CONTROL

Rent control is an important step in the OPA's program of keeping a ceiling on the cost of living, and Local 15 has been helping the OPA check on services and rentals in Charleston by turning in around 12,000 rent applications. Approximately 450 landlords have not reported to the Rent Control offices, and they will be placed on trial for their offenses.

Campaigns for a permanent FEPC and a 65c minimum wage have been in the public eye constantly due to the efforts of the Charleston Citizens PAC with which Local 15 is cooperating. Publicity has been plentiful in the Charleston newspapers.

The Local played host to three celebrities on May 5th. They were John Roy Carlson, author of "Undercover", a book exposing 5th column activities in the U. S.; George Mitchell, Southern Director of PAC; and Mrs. Anna Douglas of the National Council for a permanent FEPC.

FTA Industries Need Expanded Foreign Trade

Washington, D. C.—Foreign trade is essential for the welfare of the food and tobacco industries, as well as for national postwar prosperity, FTA told the House Foreign Affairs Committee in testimony on the bill (HR 3240) for renewal of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act.

Labor, which is almost solidly behind the bill, pointed out that increased foreign trade means jobs and that trade and jobs depend to a large degree on the passage of HR 3240. Republicans in the House are leading the fight against Reciprocal Trade as well as against the vital Bretton Woods Agreements.

In the testimony which was read into the Foreign Affairs Committee records, FTA said:

"The industries for which we speak have long been dependent upon foreign as well as home markets. This is particularly true for the tobacco industry. Expanded wartime production in these industries has made the problem even more acute.

"In order to have customers for our exports, we must import: other lands must have dollars with which to buy our goods.

"A flourishing American economy, with untrammeled world markets for its goods, can absorb both expanded American food production and imported food items.

"Exports mean jobs; imports also mean jobs in the packing and processing industries, as well as in transportation. Jobs mean buying power.

"The 'flood of cheap foreign goods' bogey is non-existent when applied to food. The people of starving, devasted Europe are not particularly in a position to threaten the American farmer or the American food worker with competing goods. It will be many a long day before Europe can provide food for herself, much less export it to the United States."

"NOT YET! I'LL TELL YOU WHEN!"

What About Working Women After the War?

THIRTY-ONE women labor leaders representing 23 international unions met the weekend of April 18 in Washington, D. C., at a conference called by the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor to discuss a postwar plan for working women. They pointed out the tremendous strides women have made in the trade unions. And, they pointed out that the following recommendations they made not only affected women workers, but also affected the interests of all workers, as well as the future generation. FTA was represented by Educational Director Connie Anderson.

Jobs

Plenty of jobs are needed. It is estimated that 16 million women will work after the war. These women workers will be needed if the 60 million job program is put into effect.

Children

Nurseries for the little ones, after-school programs for the 8 to 12 year-olds, more play grounds and health supervision through government aid, hot lunches at

school—these will be needed after the war. During the war, both women and the government were forced to see the emergency need for such things. Once tried, more and more child care aid will be insisted upon because it is good for our children, as an extra facility in addition to good homes. It helps their education, it helps their health, and it helps their busy mothers.

Money must be appropriated to extend the Lanham Act for continued and increased child care. Enough money must be appropriated to expand the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor so that it can give more service. Also for the benefit of the children is a proposed expansion of education for parents on child welfare services.

Wages

The Women's Bureau actively supports the policy of no wage discrimination against women. They campaign for equal pay for equal work, which is now called "rate for the job" to emphasize that jobs should not be labelled "men's" or "women's" jobs, but that rates should be set for each job according to the work involved—regardless of who performs the work.

Union representatives called for special activity of women to raise substandard wages, pointing out that most of the low-wage industries are those which employ large numbers of women. This applies especially to canneries, other food processing plants and tobacco manufacture, as well as to the "service" industries, such as restaurants and hotels, and to "white collar" work.

The conference went on record for increasing minimum wages in state and federal laws.

Seniority

The women representatives urged the Department of Labor to re-phrase the seniority clause in a new pamphlet being put out so that it will in effect become a "no discrimination" clause, making seniority of any kind apply the same to women as to men.

Women's Skills

Women should be employed at their highest skills, operating machines, supervising playgrounds, doing whatever more highly skilled work they can do. After the war, government advice and government training must be increased so that women may be employed at their highest skills, and so that they may increase their skills. Money must be appropriated for this purpose.

Negro Women

Women in general have suffered job discrimination; Negro women have suffered doubly because of race prejudice. Because they are so often the last to be hired, seniority rules must be applied with care, so as not to work more hardship against Negro women, it was pointed out by labor representatives at the conference.

Job Protections

Protective legislation for women and for children has been relaxed during the war and this sacrifice has been made willingly by labor. After the war, these protections should be enforced again. Limits on after-midnight work for women, limits on the length of the day and the week, limits on child labor are essential. Money must be appropriated for adequate law enforcement.

Labor's Duty

Labor, and women in the labor movement, have fought over a period of years for improvement in women's wages and conditions and for education and better care of children.

Men are directly concerned, for if women have an extra hard life, this in turn drags down the wages and conditions of men, and holds back the children and injures family life. Discrimination against

women on seniority would only result in turning the women against the union and in weakening the union movement.

End Old Prejudices

"One of the major concerns of the Women's Bureau," said Frieda Miller, Director of the Bureau, "is to prevent at the end of this war a return to the old prejudices that after World War I stood in the way of adequate training and placement of women. Such stumbling blocks held back for many years the use of women's abilities in their participation in organized labor and in community affairs."

Committees Set Up

Two committees will be set up by the Department of Labor, consisting of women labor leaders, to continue the work begun by this conference. One committee will work on the problems of women workers and will work with the Women's Bureau; the other will deal with the welfare of children and will work with the Children's Bureau, and will be assisted by trained specialists from the Department of Labor.

(Adapted from an article in Hotel and Club Voice.)

School Was Never Like This—

READING, 'Riting and 'Rithmetic will give way to Union Building, Contract Negotiating and War Labor Board Procedures, among other studies, at the FTA leadership training schools to be held this summer. Locals are electing as delegates active people who can carry the benefit of their experiences at the school back to the local union.

Northeast School

Located in the rolling foothills of the Blue Mountains, 48 miles from Philadelphia, the Northeastern School will be held at Nature Friends Camp the week of July 1-8.

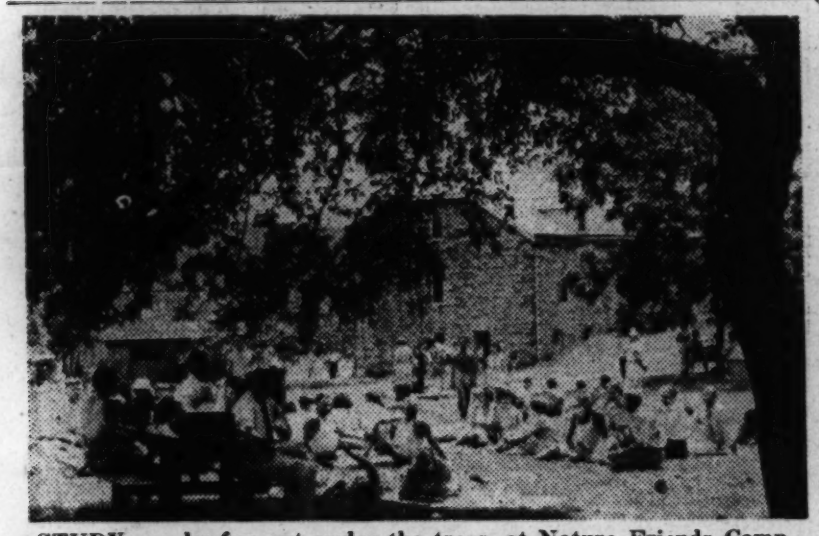
Delegates to the school will live in a solid, well-built dormitory and enjoy the use of the social hall for movies, games and dancing in the evening, as well as a beautiful pool for swimming.

The first registration form for the Northeastern School is due by June 1, along with 50% of the fee. The final form is due June 25.

Midwest School

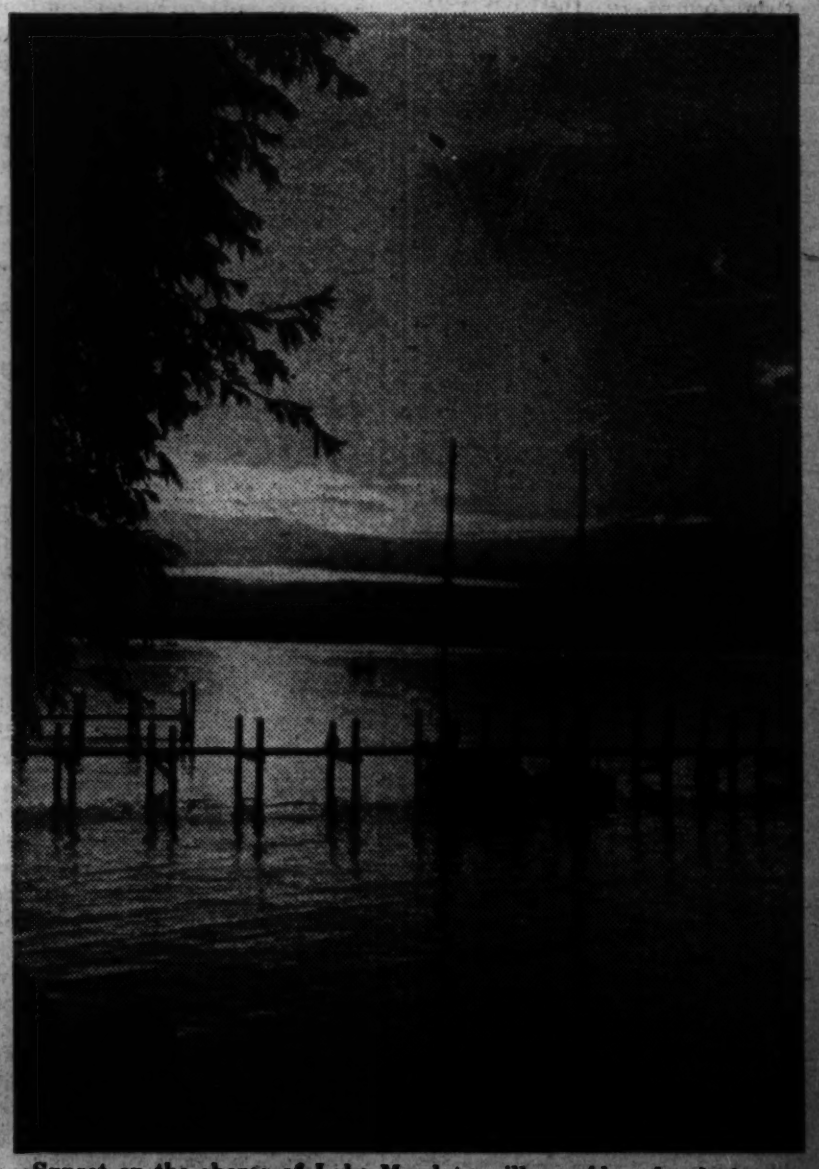
The Midwestern School will be held the week of July 16-22, in Madison, Wisconsin, on the shores of Lake Mendota, where it was held last year.

Registration forms for delegates to the Midwestern School are due in the National Office by June 11, together with $15 toward the fee. Final forms are due by July 9 along with the balance due.



STUDY can be fun out under the trees, at Nature Friends Camp, where FTA will conduct the Northeastern leadership training school from July 1 to 8.

PLAY is also in store for the delegates to the school—many hours of cooling relaxation in the swimming pool, as well as sports.



Sunset on the shores of Lake Mendota will provide a lovely backdrop for the FTA Midwestern Summer School in Madison, Wis.

HOMEWARD BOUND from San Francisco, British and French leaders of the World Trade Union Conference stop at New York City, where they are welcomed by Mayor LaGuardia and local CIO and AFL officials. (L. to r.) Secy. Louis Weinstock of Dist. Council 9, Bro. of Painters (AFL); Secy. Louis Saillant of the French Confederation of Labor; Chairman Jay Rubin of the Hotel Trades Council (AFL); LaGuardia; Secy. Ebby Edwards of the British Mineworkers Federation; Secy. Walter Citrine of the British Trades Union Congress, and Pres. Louis Hollander of the New York State Industrial Union Council (CIO). (Federated Pictures.)

Win Overtime Pay in Cal Pak Canning Peak

By Edward Mear, President, Local 17

Rochelle, Ill.—With the signing of a new contract between FTA and the California Packing Corporation, Local 17 has won important gains for its members. One of the biggest gains fought for by the Union for three years is time and a half after 10 hours during the packing season. Until now the Company was exempted from paying time and a half overtime in the season. It was finally agreed to by the Company in the new contract, subject to WLB approval. The workers who put in as much as 15 and 20 hours a day in the season—and they are over 70 per cent of the workers employed—hailed this agreement as a great improvement.

Other gains include an adjustment of wages, the establishment of a 65c minimum hourly wage, maintenance of membership without an escape clause, check-off for all workers both regular and seasonal, and an increase in vacation pay to 48 hours pay for one-week vacations and 96 hours pay for two-week vacations. A back pay award retroactive to March 1 will be in the pay envelopes soon.

HELP FROM INT.

There is no question that the dues increase voted on at our Fifth National Convention enabled us to get more help on our contract from the International through the services of the former Illinois Regional Director Paul Gardner and present Director Jack Montgomery. Another great help in our contract negotiations with the Company was the contract clause information supplied by the FTA Research Department.

Our Negotiating Committee along with a trained group of Shop Stewards did a great job in holding our members and bringing in new members who came to work at the plant. Local 17 has also started to organize other plants in the area, we have one in the CIO now, and 3 to go.

Aid Sent to Yugoslavia

By Anne Mathews, Int. Rep.

Orlando, Fla.—Over 400 pounds of clothing, ranging from infant's wear to men's suits and work boots, was collected by the citrus pickers of Orange County, members of Local 100, for the United Nations Clothing Drive.

Speaking for the Clothing Drive Committee, International Representative Anne Mathews officially announced the opening of the drive at a community rally in Orlando, where the OWI film, THE NEGRO SOLDIER, was shown.

PITCH IN

Pitching in with a will, the women of the community, like Mrs. James and Mrs. MacMillan, spent many hours sorting and packing the clothing, and even taking some of it home to wash and mend. The men, like Coleman Bady, Taylor Sneed and Thomas Evans, members of Local 100, did the heavy work of picking up the clothing and transporting it to the collection depot in a truck lent by Bady.

Earlier in the year, Local 100 came through in a similar fashion with $800 worth of clothing for Yugoslav refugees, in response to an appeal from Pres. Donald Henderson. As a result of the cooperation shown by church, school and business groups in the community, the Local was able to ship 8 boxes of clothing to the American Committee for Yugoslav Relief. The Railway Express Agency shipped the clothing free of charge.

Wage Increases Won at Kraft Cheese

By Robert Clark, International Organizer

Summitville, Ind. — Wage increases were won by Local 48 for the employees of the Kraft Cheese Co., retroactive to May 1, 1944, as the result of a Form 10 filed with the WLB.

Starting rates were increased 5c per hour, automatic progression rates were increased 4 an 5c per hour, and two job classifications received increases of 1 and 3c each.

Individual back pay checks received ranged from $75 to $150 per person.

A contract renewal was negotiated with the Company by which the union shop provision was strengthened and another request for wage increases was filed with the WLB. This new request would increase the minimum wage 5c per hour, and raise the graduated wage ranges 2 to 4c an hour.

WLB Orders Wage Rises At Campbell Soup Plant

By Paul Gardner, Business Agent, Local 194

Chicago, Ill.—FTA members of Local 194 at the Campbell Soup Co. are all smiles these days. The smiles are because of the victory won by the Union through a Regional War Labor Board decision ordering a $500,000 back pay award.

The directive order was the result of a wage reopening clause which allowed the Union to reopen wages in Mar., 1944. When the Union presented demands to the Company, the Company demanded wage cuts. Negotiations broke down over the ridiculous position of the Company refusing to consider the Union demands but insisting that wages be reduced 20c per hour, that payment of overtime during the processing of seasonal products be eliminated and only straight time wages be paid, that Christmas holiday pay be eliminated and vacation pay reduced, besides a few other reductions.

UNION DEMANDS

Union demands included a guaranteed progression rate to 62c per hour after 90 days for female workers; and to 72½c per hour after 30 days and then the minimum of the job classifications after 90 days for male workers. Other demands were elimination of inequities of warehousemen, soup dippers, weighers, maintenance men, etc.; equalization of can plant rates with the can manufacturing industry in the Chicago metropolitan area; adjustment of incentive pay to provide fairer payment; furnishing of full information by Company to the Union on wages, classifications, rates, job descriptions, etc; elimination of boys' rates; contract provision for a reopening clause in the event of changes in the little steel formula and other items pertaining to "b" values; etc.

WLB SAYS OKAY

Through the diligent efforts of the Officers of Local 194, the Company's efforts to cut wages was defeated and the WLB ruled in favor of the Union demands with the exception of a few minor issues. The Local's handling of the case proved that the Company's refusal to bargain in good faith made Campbell's look ridiculous before any impartial WLB.

The victory marks a turning point in Campbell Soup wage policies, a vast improvement over the old policies begun in 1927 on the basis of a speed-up, sweat shop wage structure. Thanks for their help in the preparation and presentation of the case was wired to Elizabeth Sasuly, FTA Washington Rep., and Carmen Parente, former Local 186 Business Agent, now in the Navy.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Now, the job remains to negotiate much of the Directive Order with the Company. Local 194 has raised the slogan "Every Member an Organizer" to get every worker in the plant behind the Negotiating Committee by joining the Union, to assure 100% wage benefits.

Quips

With Gerald L. K. Smith as one of his admirers, Sen. Arthur Vandenberg should feel as happy as the man who discovered he'd hired Typhoid Mary as his cook.

* * *

Guaranteeing an annual wage is impossible and may cause lowered wages and unemployment, says the chairman of the U. S. Steel Corp.

OK, then, maybe he can dig up a wage cut that will guarantee higher pay and more jobs.

$12,614 Back Pay at Cal San

By O. H. Johnston, Business Agent

Los Angeles, Cal.—Members of Local 3 employed at the California Sanitary Canning Co. won a War Labor Board decision awarding the workers $12,614.00 in back pay, representing retroactive overtime pay and vacation money.

The highest individual check totalling $193.61 went to the millwright (head carpenter), O. E. Klockentager.

Check-off of dues was also awarded by the WLB, in addition to two-week vacations with pay for workers employed 5 or more years and one week with pay for workers employed over 1 year.

5c INCREASE

Although the Company is going to move North before the contract expires, the management agreed to go to the WLB for an across-the-board increase of 5c per hour for all the workers left in the plant. This increase is to be retroactive to May 1, 1945.

They also agreed to extend all the conditions in the old contract until all the canned products have been cleared from the warehouse and the machinery dismantled. In the event that the work is not completed before Jan. 1, 1946, the Company agreed to negotiate a new contract.

Call For Woods Plan

By Florence Palmer, Reporter.

Seattle, Wash.—Local 7-2 strongly urged the adoption of the Bretton Woods and Dumbarton Oaks proposals in letters to their Congressmen urging passage of HR 2211 (Bretton Woods).

Our great President and statesman, Franklin D. Roosevelt, helped lay the groundwork for an enduring peace, but it is up to all of us to help carry out the policies for which he gave his life. Yes, he is gone but not forgotten, for he will live forever in the hearts of his countrymen.

Ask Justice For Poland

Chicago, Ill.—"Many members of Local 194 are Polish-American workers, and feel that grievous injustice will be done to Poland if representatives of the Warsaw-Polish Government are not present at the United Nations Conference," wrote Veronica Kryzan, Fin. Secy. of Local 194 to Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Chairman of the U. S. delegation to the Conference.

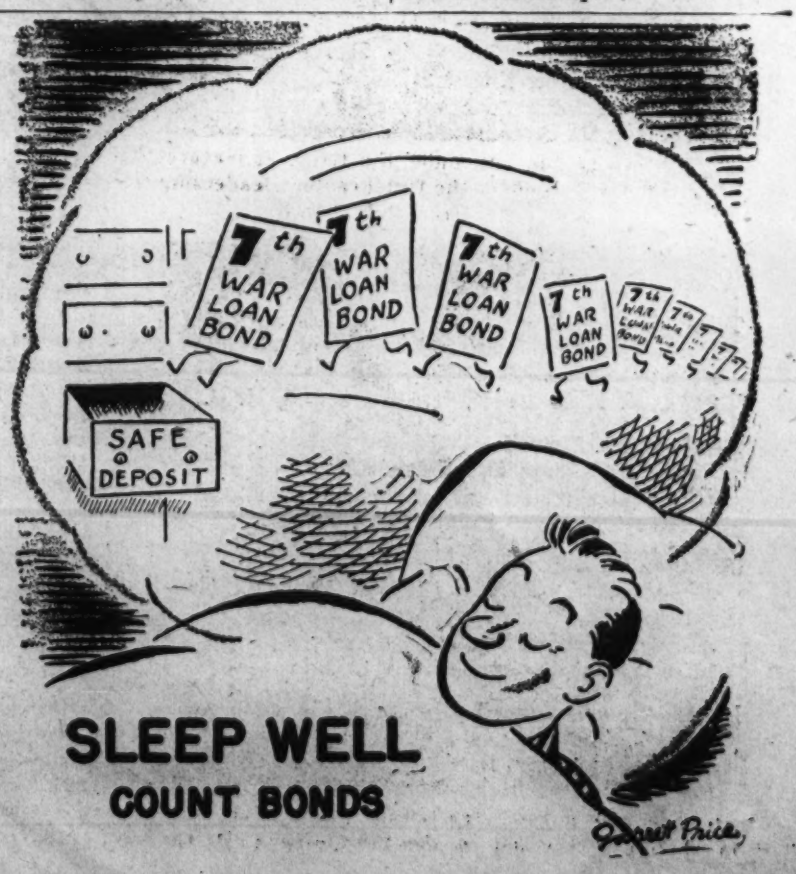
"We feel that a democratic Poland is the key to a democratic postwar Europe. The Warsaw-Polish Government was established along democratic lines and is in touch with the Polish people.

AGAINST PEOPLE

"On the other hand, the exiled Polish Government in London has been out of touch with the Polish people for 5½ years and is being used by wealthy Polish aristocrats and landowners to keep the people from breaking away from the feudalism under which they were forced to live."

A similar letter was sent by Business Agent Paul Gardner to the reactionary, anti-United Nations Congressman, Alvin E. O'Konski (R., Wis.). Gardner pointed out that "one of the important foundations for permanent peace along the lines of Dumbarton Oaks and the Yalta agreements is the continued unity of the three major powers, U. S., Soviet Union, and Great Britain.

"The reactionary forces that are opposed to world security hope to wreck the plan for permanent peace by disrupting the friendship between the U. S. and Russia. These forces are now using the Polish question to disrupt U. S.-Soviet friendship."



FTA Councils In Action

Northeast

New York, N. Y.—The future of the world depends upon what organized labor does in the next few months and years, FTA President Donald Henderson told the delegates to the Northeast Council meeting held here May 6.

"Unless we realize our important role and give leadership to our communities, then we will be headed for another world war," Henderson said. Taking action on the peace issue, the Council unanimously endorsed a resolution urging Congress to ratify the decisions of the San Francisco Conference. The Council also sent a wire to Stettinius opposing the participation of Argentina in the United Nations Conference and urging the calling in of World Trade Union Congress leaders.

Delegates responded enthusiastically to the plans for the FTA summer school, as outlined by Education Director Connie Anderson. Every local in the region will make plans to guarantee a maximum number of delegates to the school.

Harold J. Lane, Int. Secy.-Treas., spoke on the need for setting up and office for the Northeast Council in order to service the region better. The delegates voted to contribute 10c per month per member to the Council to increase organizing work.

Regional Director Armando Ramirez chaired the all-day meeting, which was attended by 32 delegates from 6 locals in New York and New Jersey. Joseph Tauber, attorney for the New York locals, and Isidore Blumberg, of the New York State CIO Council, spoke.

Indiana-Illinois

Indianapolis, Ind.—Pointing out that Political Action is as important to the Union as negotiating contracts, Harold J. Lane, Secy.-Treas., told the Indiana-Illinois Council meeting here April 22 that PAC must go hand-in-hand with the Union's number-one job of organizing. "All locals must participate fully in the work of the Indiana and Illinois PAC's by contributions and work," Lane said.

Attended by more than 40 delegates representing nearly every local in the region, the Council was called to order by former Indiana Regional Director Robert Clark.

General Pres. Donald Henderson spoke on the San Francisco Conference and the importance of seeing that the Conference meets with success. The Council adopted a pledge to create a monument to the late President Roosevelt by carrying out his policies and passing the Bretton Woods and Dumbarton Oaks proposals.

Delegates who had attended last year's Midwest summer school urged the locals to participate to the fullest extent in the school to be held this summer at Madison, Wisconsin.

Jack Montgomery was introduced as the new Regional Director for the locals in Indiana and Illinois.

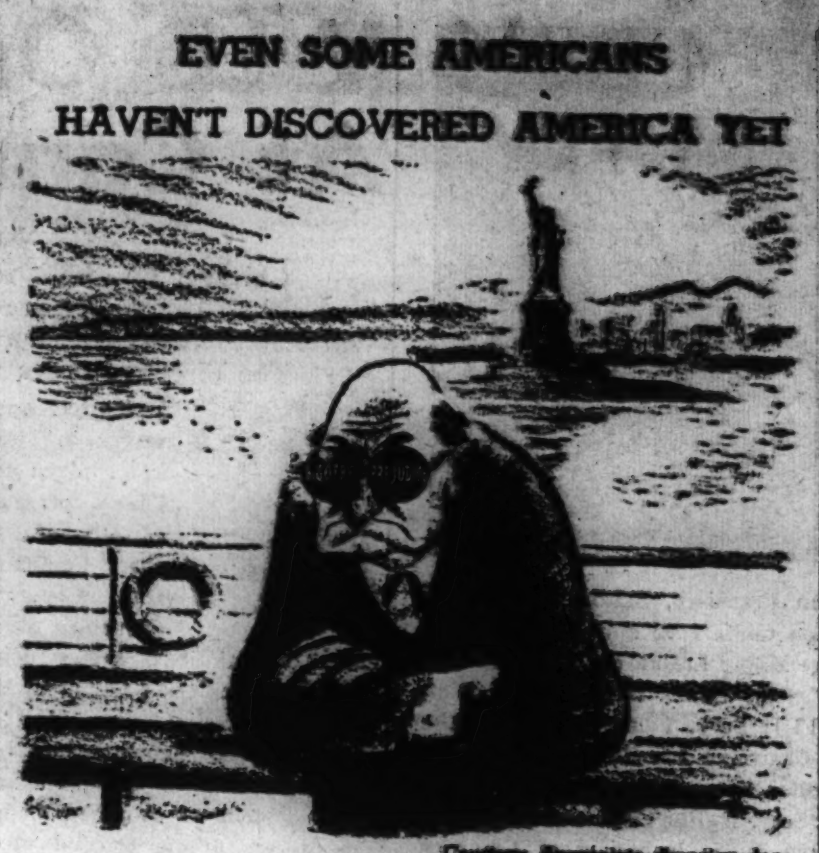
Mississippi Valley

Memphis, Tenn.—"Build the Union" was the theme of the recent regular meeting of the Southern Mississippi Valley Council held in Memphis on April 15. Delegates to the Council meeting represented FTA locals in Arkansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Mississippi and Tennessee.

The delegates resolved to work to set up organizing committees in each local for the purpose of solidifying their membership and extending the Union to workers in the other plants in their communities. Excellent possibilities of organizing in Middle Tennessee were reported, and the Council pledged its cooperation in the drive.

A resolution was unanimously adopted by the Council expressing grief at the death of Frauklin D. Roosevelt, and pledging support to President Harry S. Truman.

Protesting the sale of group labor homes to big landowners by the Farm Security Administration, the delegates adopted a resolution urging their sale either to the present occupants or to war veterans. Many FTA members who participated in the sharecroppers' eviction demonstrations several years ago, now live in the group labor homes. The return of the landlords would bring back once more the old insecurity which the FSA homes had helped to erase.



Courtesy Appreciate Freedom, Inc.
With permission of R. A. Lowie and Milwaukee Journal

Notes from LOCALS

Celebrate V-E

55 Middletown, Ohio—On V-E Day, the workers at P. Lorrillard and Company reported for work. On confirmation from Washington of the news of Germany's surrender, the employees were told to clean their machines and go home. They were paid a full days wages for the time off.

Our new contract will be coming up soon for discussion.

By Jennie Stiver, Reporter

Get Down to Work

63 Turrell, Ark.—Local 63 held its regular membership meeting Sunday, May 13. Alberta Johnson took the floor and led a discussion on political and legislative action. She told the local that it had to get down to work and write to our Congressmen and Senators about how we feel about things.

Pres. Holmes backed her up and urged the members to see to it that everyone attended the membership meetings, otherwise they would be fined.

By William Holmes, Pres.

DWG on the Beam

70 Lima, Ohio—Local 70 welcomes our new Regional Director Armando Valdes, and we pledge him our fullest support.

Our Local really started humming with the help of former Regional Director Jack Montgomery, now Regional Director of Indiana-Illinois. Our grievances began to be settled efficiently, the plant foremen were put in their places, our contract negotiations are now before a WLB panel hearing.

Witnesses on negotiations were: Neil Fox, Minnie Duckro, Lillian Wegison, Lenore Muhlmeister, Kate Wilser and Roy Mielkreif of Local 69; Sally Sullivan and Gladys Garman, Local 70; Genevieve Cook, Local 71; Sybil Neff and Orpha Cramer, Local 72; Thelma Miller and Flossie Mills, Local 78; Sophia Cichoracki, Local 58.

By Sally Sullivan, Reporter

New Officers

101 York, Pa.—Newly elected officers of Local 101 are: Harold Lefever, Pres.; Paul Shanabrook, Treas.; Jesse G. Gardner, Rec. Secy.; and Robert J. Landis, Vice-Pres.

Honor Organizer

115 Depew, N. Y.—Local 115 held a dinner dance at Moose Hall Sunday, May 13, in honor of CIO Field Rep. Joseph Lowas. They presented him with a brief case in appreciation for his cooperation and help.

Ed Delahoyd, newly appointed FTA Int. Org., was introduced at the affair. Delahoyd will organize the food and canning industry in the Niagara district of western New York State.

New Officers

194 Chicago, Ill.—Newly elected officers for Local 194 are: John Gallacher, Pres.; Mike Jurcenko, 1st Vice-Pres.; Julie Griffin, 2nd Vice-Pres.; Stanley Surna, Treas.; Veronica Kryzan, Fin. Secy.; Vito Capozzielli, Rec. Secy.; Rose Wolanski, Mathew Buchanan and John Jurgensohn, Trustees; Peter Aleck, Sgt.-at-Arms; John Buckley, Division Chairman; Rudy Brncick, Chief Shop Steward; James Horn, Organizational Dir.; and Thomas Smith, Legislative Dir.

Pledge Support

297 Toledo, Ohio—On V-E Day, as soon as the war in Germany was officially declared ended, the Woolson Spice plant closed for the day and the Management agreed to pay a full day's pay to all the workers who reported for work.

At the last regular meeting of Local 297, we drew up a resolution of respect to our late President, Franklin D. Roosevelt, pledging our support to President Truman.

By Dan Smith, Reporter

FTA Councils

From time to time this list of area councils will appear in the News for the information of the local unions.

Northeastern Council
New York State, Northern Jersey (including Trenton), New England
Armando Ramirez, Regional Director
977 Intervale Avenue, Bronx 59, New York

Middle Atlantic Council
South Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland
Lewis C. Bentzley, Regional Director
Room 414, 1505 Race Street, Philadelphia 2, Pa.

Tri-State Council
North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia
Frank Green, Regional Director
247½ N. Main Street, Winston Salem, N. C.

Southeastern Council
Florida, Alabama and Georgia
John G. Lackner, Regional Director
730 West Flagler Street, Miami, Florida

Michigan-Ohio Council
Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia, Northern Kentucky
Armando Valdes, Regional Director
1000 Walnut Street, Cleveland, Ohio

Indiana-Illinois Council
Indiana, Illinois
Jack Montgomery, Regional Director
166 W. Jackson Blvd.—Room 1011, Chicago, Ill.

Wisconsin-Minnesota Council
Wisconsin and Minnesota
Harry Virgil, Regional Director
743 S. 16th Street, Milwaukee 4, Wis.

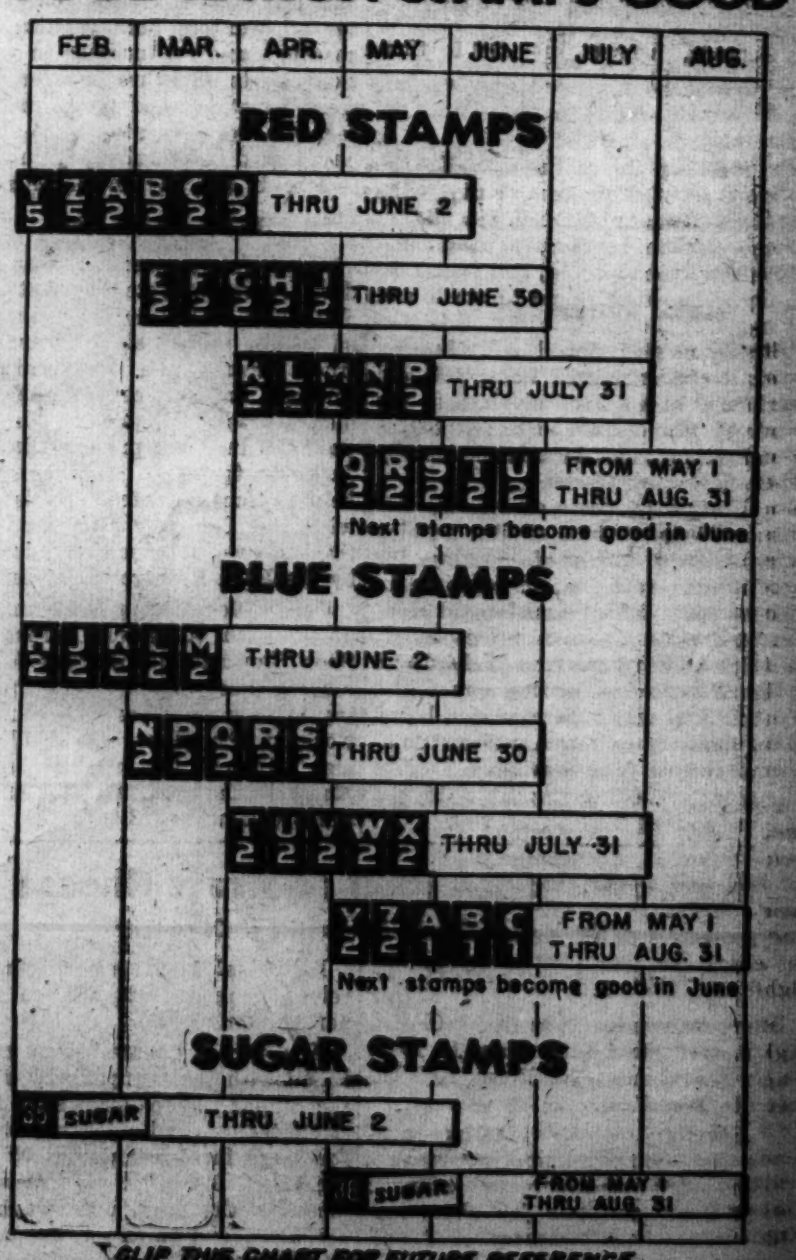
Mississippi Valley Council
Mississippi, Western Tennessee, Arkansas, Southern Kentucky
Frank Hargrove, Regional Director
66 S. Third Street, Hemphis, Tennessee
Harry Koger, Sub-Regional Director
119 Glover Building, Little Rock, Ark.

Nebraska, Missouri, Iowa Council
Nebraska, Missouri, Iowa, Colorado
No Regional Director assigned
Jack Sparks, International Organizer
305 Brandeis Theatre Building, Omaha, Neb.

Texas-Louisiana Council
Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma
Chester Meske, Regional Director
600 South 17th Street, McAllen, Tex.

California-Arizona Council
California and Arizona
Luisa Moreno, Regional Director
5851 South Avalon Blvd., Los Angeles 8, Calif.

Northwestern Council
Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Alaska
Conrad Espe, Regional Director
221 Second Avenue, Seattle 14, Wash.


FOOD RATION STAMPS GOOD
FEB. MAR. APR. MAY JUNE JULY AUG.
RED STAMPS
Y Z A B C D 2 2 2 2 2 2 THRU JUNE 2
E F G H J 2 2 2 2 2 THRU JUNE 30
K L M N P 2 2 2 2 2 THRU JULY 31
Q R S T U 2 2 2 2 2 FROM MAY 1 THRU AUG. 31
Next stamps become good in June
BLUE STAMPS
H J K L M 2 2 2 2 2 THRU JUNE 2
N P Q R S 2 2 2 2 2 THRU JUNE 30
T U V W X 2 2 2 2 2 THRU JULY 31
Y Z A B C 2 2 1 1 1 FROM MAY 1 THRU AUG. 31
Next stamps become good in June
SUGAR STAMPS
35 SUGAR THRU JUNE 2
SUGAR FROM MAY 1 THRU AUG. 31
CLIP THIS CHART FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

World Will Get A Bill Of Rights

San Francisco, Calif. (FP)—An international bill of rights, including the right to work, will be included in the principles of the new World Security Organization, as requested by the CIO and AFL. This proposal was made here by the U. S. delegates at the World Security Conference.

Coming after a series of rebuffs to the labor representatives and of objections to some labor-sponsored additions to the Dumbarton Oaks plan, the new proposal is seen as a substantial concession to the official labor viewpoint.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

While no bill of rights will be included in the charter of the new security organization, as labor had requested, Secy. of State Edward R. Stettinius said the U. S. delegation considered the creation of such a statement of principles to be one of the first duties of the proposed human rights commission of the world organization.

The U. S. delegates, he said, hope that such a bill of rights will be "accepted by all member nations as an integral part of their own systems of law, just as our Bill of Rights has been an integral part of our system of law."

FUNDAMENAL PURPOSE

The American proposal for a world bill of rights is an expansion of four amendments on human rights sponsored by the U. S., Great Britain, Soviet Russia and China. The first amendment establishes the promotion of human rights and freedoms as one of the fundamental purposes of the organization. The second gives the General Assembly the power to assist in the realization of these rights and freedoms. The other two amendments provide for letting the assembly exercise its responsibility on human rights through the Economic & Social Council which will, in turn, establish a commission for the promotion of human rights.

JOB FOR COMMISSION

"This commission represents the heart of the matter," Stettinius said. Pointing out that the four sponsoring governments agreed it was impossible for the conference, in the short time it has, to obtain agreement on a bill of rights suitable to 49 nations of diverse social systems, environments and traditions, he said the U. S. hoped the human rights commission would undertake that job.

FOUR FREEDOMS

Stettinius said the Four Freedoms stated by the late Pres. Roosevelt "are, from the point of view of the U. S. fundamental freedoms which encompass all other rights and freedoms." Freedom from want, he said, "encompasses the right to work, the right to social security and the right to opportunity for advancement." This is noteworthy since early in the conference Russian proposals that the right to work be included in the charter met strong opposition from the U. S. delegation and particularly from Sen. Arthur H. Vandenberg (R) of Michigan.

Freedom from fear, Stettinius said, takes in "protection from persecution or discrimination of all men and women, regardless of race, language, religion or sex, and protection of their equal right to enjoy all other fundamental rights and freedoms."

The declaration on human rights and Stettinius' championship of self-government for subject countries goes far to restore U. S. prestige as a world leader of democracy, a position which it had whittled down through its own mistakes in the handling of the Argentine and Polish issues.

A Contest
FOR FTA MEMBERS'

Are you a good Union member? One of the tests of a good unionist is knowing your politics—being aware of the political issues that affect labor and letting your Congressman know how you feel about those issues.

If you have already started writing letters to your Congressman, this contest is your meat! If not, why not start now?

WRITE A LETTER

CONTEST RULES:

1—This contest begins May 1, 1945, and ends midnight, July 4, 1945.

2—Write a letter to your Congressman, Senator, or any other government official.

3—Write about any one of the many issues which affect you as a worker and citizen. You may write about manpower legislation, Bretton Woods, OPA extension, the 65c minimum wage, or any other issue.

4—Send an extra copy of your letter to the Editor, FTA News, Room 418, 1505 Race St., Phila 2, Pa.

REMEMBER:

Your letter need not be an angry one. Good letters can also be written to good Congressmen.

Your letter will not be judged by its spelling and punctuation but by what it says. Say as much as you can, as briefly as you can.

Prizes!

Prizes will be awarded to the three best letters submitted. The winners will have a choice of any one of the following popular and stimulating books:

"The Cross and the Arrow" by Albert Maltz
"Freedom Road" by Howard Fast
"Deep River" by Henrietta Buckmaster
"People on Our Side" by Edgar Snow

Prize-winning letters and others which win honorable mention will be published in FTA News.

Social Security Bill Introduced in Senate

Washington, D. C. (FP)—A new Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill calling for wide expansion of federal social security laws and extending benefits to 15 million persons now not covered, was introduced in the Senate May 24 by Sen. Robert F. Wagner (D., N. Y.). Sponsoring the liberalized bill with him are Sen. James Murray (D., Mont.) and Rep. John Dingell (D., Mich.).

The bill provides protection against the major economic hazards facing American families, whether they be on farms or in industry or private professions and trades. It covers costs of medical and hospital care, loss of income from unemployment, temporary sickness, extended disability, retirement or death of the family breadwinner.

The bill is strongly endorsed by the CIO, AFL, Farmers Union and many other organizations.

Spike Attempts To Hold Back NLRB Powers

Washington, D. C.—Quick action by FTA locals and other CIO affiliates won the first round against the efforts of reactionary industrial lobbyists here to weaken the Union by an amendment preventing the use of NLRB funds in agricultural processing cases.

But, the score is not settled yet. While the two amendments stopping the use of money in cases involving foremen and food plants or sheds were defeated in the House of Representatives, the House did pass a $400,000 cut in NLRB appropriations. It also passed the Frey Rider preventing the NLRB from handling cases where the contract has been signed over 3 months.

And, there is a possibility that the two defeated amendments will crop up again when the NLRB appropriations bill comes before the Senate. The bill is now in the sub-committee of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Action is needed to make sure that the two defeated amendments will not be taken up again; and labor organizations are fighting for restoration of the cuts in the NLRB appropriations and against the Frey rider.

FTA GOES TO BAT

The FTA California-Arizona Regional Council worked to defeat the measure in the House by sending telegrams to every Los Angeles Congressman, and telegrams to Congressmen were immediately dispatched by Locals 3, 7, 64, 78, 272, 306 and CWOC. The Council was also instrumental in mobilizing other CIO affiliates in the region into action. Every Congressman was reminded that weakening the NLRB could only lead to weakening collective bargaining and industrial peace.

LOCALS ACT

In Texas and Louisiana, too, Regional Director Chester Meske reports, machinery was set in motion to defeat the rider. Locals 35, 75 and 309 sent wires and won support from other organizations.

In Buffalo, N. Y., on the initiative of FTA, CIO locals cooperated with the press and the Buffalo Industrial Union Council to publicize the attempted sabotage of the NLRB.

Other reports of action taken on the NLRB appropriations cut came in from Locals 273 and 57.

CIO Leaders Rap Jimcrow AFL Case

Philadelphia, Pa.—Backing up the CIO Executive Board's resolution condemning Jim Crow practices on the part of the AFL at the Larus Brothers tobacco plant in Richmond, Va., letters from top ranking CIO leaders have been sent to the Chairman of the NLRB, urging him to take strong action in the case now pending before the Board.

"The central issue is discrimination growing out of Jim Crowism whereby the Tobacco Workers International of the AFL practically eliminated the Negro workers from effective collective bargaining through the device of Jim Crow locals," pointed out R. J. Thomas, President of United Auto Workers, largest CIO affiliate, in a letter to Dr. H. A. Millis, NLRB Chairman. "A contract was negotiated covering only the whites, leaving the Negroes to shift for themselves," he continued. "I would urge that you do everying possible on the Board to correct this very bad situation."

OTHER LETTERS

Julius Emspak, Gen. Secy.-Treas. of the United Electrical Workers, also wrote, urging "the Board to sustain the NLRB Trial Examiner's recommendation that the AFL certification be revoked in this case because of the Jim Crow actions of the AFL and the denial of Negro workers to representation without discrimination."

Other letters were sent by John Green, Pres. of the Shipbuilding Workers Union and Lee Pressman, CIO General Counsel.

The case at Larus Bros. had been brought to the attention of the NLRB by FTA Local 45 in behalf of the Negro workers in the plant.

If accepted by the NLRB, the Trial Examiner's recommendations will strike a heavy blow against discrimination against Negro workers in the AFL.

JOHNNIE JONES
by DON RICO
COSH! MY OWN FRIENDS HAVE TURNED AGAINST ME!
THEY'RE A BUNCH OF JERKS, JOHNNIE! HOW'D YOU LIKE A CHANCE TO GET BACK AT 'EM?
FEDERATED PRESS
WOULD I? AND HOW!
WELL--I'VE GOT SOME FRIENDS WHO'D PAY PLENTY TO KNOW WHERE "THE MISTY QUEEN" IS GOING--AND WHEN! D'YA WANNA PLAY BALL WITH US?
GO AHEAD, JOHNNIE! WHY BE A SUCKER FOR THAT GOOF WHO KICKED YOU OFF THE SHIP? TELL JUMBO WHAT HE WANTS TO KNOW!
OKAY!
SHE'S SAILING ON MONDAY--WITH WAR SUPPLIES BOUND FOR RUSSIA!
THAT'S THE BUNKO--BUT IT'S WHAT FARREL TOLD ME TO SAY!
KEEP OUR FRIEND COMPANY, ANNIE! I'VE GOT VISITING TO DO!
SURE THING, JUMBO!
ALL RIGHT, PETE! THE LITTLE MAN'S PLACE--AND STEP ON IT!
AHO! THE KID TALKED, EH?
BUT AS JUMBO'S CAR TEARS THROUGH THE NIGHT, ANOTHER CAR, WITHOUT LIGHTS, STEALS SILENTLY AFTER IT..
DON'T LET THAT CAR GET AWAY!
DON'T WORRY, MR. FARREL!

Air Medal: "For meritorious achievement, in accomplishing with distinction, several aerial operational missions over enemy occupied Continental Europe . . .", INT. REP. JACK FOX, now on leave with the armed forces, was awarded the Air Medal. "The courage, coolness and skill displayed by this individual in the face of determined opposition," the citation read, "materially aided the successful completion of those missions."

Sergeant Fox, who is an aerial gunner, is a veteran of 25 aerial missions. He mentioned receiving the medal briefly in a letter to his wife, Ruth, but it was not until she received the medal and the citation that she learned the full details of the award.

"I was sort of uneasy," wrote Fox in one of his early letters following his first "baptism of fire," "but I finally decided that Hitler had more to worry about than I did—he sure did, too. We're paying off some old debts—cash on the barrelhead. I don't think the Fascists like it either."

While working for FTA, Fox was active in organizing canning plants in Local 13, Chicago; Local 17, Rochelle; and Local 47, Blue Island, Ill., as well as Local 110 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

UNION MEN IN UNIFORM

Returning Servicemen a Source of Strength for the Unions, GI Says

By Herbert Klein, Federated Press War Correspondent

ALLIED SUPREME HEADQUARTERS, PARIS (FP, Delayed) — A lot of union men I have run into in the Army have said they are still strong for their unions but they are afraid of the attitude of non-union GIs when they get back to the U. S.

Is their worry justified? Here in Paris I ran into a man whose opinion should be worth something. And he says No: returning GIs present the labor movement with a wonderful opportunity, not a problem.

He is Cpl. Russ Nixon, until about a year ago National Legislative Representative for the United Electrical Radio & Machine Workers (CIO) in Washington. He has got around a lot in the Army and in his job of organizing and directing orientation courses for a big replacement depot in northern France, he has probably met and talked to more fellow soldiers than most GIs ever have contact with. So I asked him: What's the real dope?

A PROGRESSIVE FORCE

"Servicemen are not anti-union, by and large," Nixon said. "I'd say rather that they are neither for or against unions. Most of them simply don't know enough about unions. The men in our army today are not potential anti-unionists and labor baiters. Rather, they are potentially the most progressive forces in our country's history.

"Here's why. They have been shaped and molded by their experiences in the Army. Most of them have a sort of cynicism about authority as such. They resent hypocrisy. They detect and despise pious pretenses and hollow platitudes.

"They are determined to get something decent for themselves and their folks when they get back to civilian life. Heaven help the man or group that tries to buy them off with fine words and phrases. They simply won't go for it."

He said the men have seen for themselves the abundance America can produce for war and they know it can pour forth an abundance in peace, too. What they've done in the war—run trains, build bridges, operate radio systems, organize supply—they intend to do after the war.

"You don't agree, then," I asked, "with those who warn unions they had better watch out when the soldiers come home again?"

"On the contrary," Nixon said, "American unions should look to returning servicemen for new blood, for an influx of militant members, for stimulus and strength. But the unions have got to be prepared to help these men get what they want and what they are entitled to. And first of all unions must start right now doing a better job of reaching their own members, to say nothing of reaching non-member GIs."

SERVICEMEN'S COMMITTEES

Keeping up with GIs' rapidly changing addresses is tough, he admits. But he has some suggestions. First, let the locals, not the internationals, take over the address listing job. Let each have a servicemen's committee for that work and enlist the wives and sweethearts—they'll be glad to do it. Furthermore, print a union newspaper on V-mail forms, leaving only the addresses to be filled in. If necessary, mail it to the nearest of kin and let them fill it in.

And finally, give the men dope about the little things in the shop—the kind of stuff the management can't do half so well in its flossy magazine type soldier publications as the union can do in a V-mail paper. Right now, Nixon says, most men hear oftener from the boss than from the union.

Otis Nation, FTA Regional Director, who entered the Army recently, left behind a network of FTA locals that he helped to organize in the "wide open spaces" of the Southwest. Around 1942, while he was organizing for the Union in Arkansas, Nation helped to form the first State CIO Council in Arkansas and was elected its first president. Later he organized among the citrus workers in Florida and Texas. Nation was Regional Director of the Texas-Louisiana-Oklahoma Region.

Local 7 GI Wins Award For Heroism

Philippine Islands — Veteran of the invasion of Leyte and Luzon, TECH. SGT. MARCEL R. CABABA, member of Local 7 in Seattle, Wash., has just been awarded an Oak Leaf Cluster to his Purple Heart Medal, according to the Army Public Relations office.

Sergeant Cababa, now serving as a Public Safety Man for PCAU No. 2, together with other members of PCAU No. 2, MP's and guerillas, engaged a group of Japanese who had infiltrated by water to the rear of the lines. The enemy were already well dug in when discovered. In the ensuing fight, Cababa was wounded and had to be carried away from the scene of the fight.

He had previously been awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received from enemy action when his boat was bombed and hit during the invasion of Leyte. In addition, he wears the Good Conduct Medal, and is entitled to wear the Asiatic-Pacific Service Ribbon and the Philippine Liberation Ribbon.

A Filipino by birth, Cababa has been away from his homeland 17 years, returning there to participate in her liberation. His folks are still in Jap-held Philippine territory and he has not seen or heard from them since arriving in the Philippines. Cababa was formerly employed by Libby, McNeil and Libby in Bristol Bay, Alaska.

YOU NEED *HIM!*
HE NEEDS *YOU!*
BUY WAR BONDS

Mail Call

"I READ the story in the News of Local 100 collecting clothes for the Yugoslavs," writes **Capt. Leif Dahl, Int. Rep. now on leave with the Army Air Forces.** "That is a fine act of international solidarity. Yugoslavs may not be more in need of food, clothes and reconstruction than other countries, but I think they deserve more credit for their role while under occupation by the Krauts.

"From the first they organized their partisan bands of resistance and harried the Germans and Italian Fascists constantly, especially after we landed in North Africa. After we got to Italy, our forces started giving them material aid. For many months, units of my wing dropped guns, ammunition, medical supplies, etc. to partisan bands in the mountains, almost always at night. The partisans would clear a landing strip sometimes, secure the country against Germans and then our planes could land and evacuate their wounded, and orphaned, sick or hungry children. I've seen these partisans and their children, heard stories about their campaigns, and their hardships, the cruelty of the Germans and Italians who occupied their country, and it's a glorious tale.

"Another bit I read in the News would indicate that the Hills Brothers Local (207) is packing K rations. In the early days of the African campaign those rations were only for the elite over here. Others got C rations. Air Corps flying personnel got K's. And we still use them on all long flights. And they still aren't bad if you can't get a lunch basket salad and sweet pickles with cold beer.

"Keep up the good work in building and strengthening the Union. We'll need it even more perhaps after the war is over."

"I RECENTLY received the FTA Resolution on Veterans and I'm very much in favor of it," writes **George Soule, HA 1/c, Local 125 member.** "It sure gives a fellow in our position a lift to know that the folks back home are doing their bit towards a better place for us to return to. It is good to know they are backing us up 100 per cent. With so much encouragement from the home front, we are sure to do our very best and victory will be ours. As I'm about to go overseas, I am sure that I will come back to a better world in which to live.

"Since I have been in the service it has been a pleasure to receive the News telling about the activities of FTA. Although I have not heard from Local 125 I'm sure they are doing their part to secure the everlasting peace we are all fighting for. Even though I cannot attend the meetings, I am trying to keep up with the good program they have been undertaking."

C.J. Feller, known as "Chuck" to the members of Local 78, has dropped out of FTA's West Coast organizing drive temporarily to join the drive on Tokyo. Feller, a member of one of FTA's largest locals, was elected a Vice-President of Local 78 at its Second Annual Convention held last February in El Centro, Calif.

Labor and Vets Must Cooperate in Postwar

New York, N. Y. (FP) — Labor and veterans both must fight attempts of reactionaries to "divide and conquer" them, Chairman Ted F. Silvey of the Natl. CIO Veterans Committee told a citywide conference on veterans' welfare called by the Greater New York CIO Council.

Charging former isolationists with attempting to create antagonism between soldiers and civilian workers under the guise of "doing something for the veterans," Silvey pointed out that "veterans are not favored if they have a job and others are unemployed; they cannot prosper if they must support jobless parents or take in the family of brothers and sisters, or have to meet the tax bill for unemployment relief."

REPRESENTATIVE GROUPS

Three hundred delegates from labor, civic, welfare and veteran organizations took part in day-long panel discussions on rehabilitation, reemployment and general welfare and in a luncheon session addressed by representatives of all the groups concerned.

Asst. Natl. Chief of Staff Adrian J. Grobsmith of Veterans of Foreign Wars compared the aims and activities of the VFW with those of the CIO and said:

"It is our firm belief that a great future for this nation can be founded by the cooperation of these great groups of VFW and members of [illegible]or groups such as the CIO [illegible]ining the policies of our [illegible] to see that we abo[illegible] wars. But we must see to it that never again will an economic depression strike these United States such as that which we witnessed prior to World War II."

Kings County Commander Lawrence Wiseman of the American Legion told of the Legion's efforts in behalf of the GI Bill of Rights and of its determination that veterans of the current war should not suffer the same neglect as those of World War I.

MORE MEDICAL AID

Dr. Ernst P. Boas, chairman of the National Physicians Forum, called for a change in the present setup under which all veterans are cared for by the Veterans Bureau. He proposed that the government continue to pay for veterans care but that it also make certain all medical facilities are available in all communities and that veterans be permitted to make use of all such facilities. He pointed out that veterans and their families will constitute nearly one-third of the nation's population.

SERVICEMEN:

When your military address changes, please notify FTA News immediately, so that you can continue to receive the paper.